

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
April 14, 2008**

DOA MEMBERS	DOA STAFF	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED	GUESTS
Suzan M. Adams	Mary S. Bevard-Cline, Rec. Sec.			Carol Haag, RSVP
William P. Allen, PhD	Margaret Nusbaum			Mindy Lohman-Hinz, DoA
Earl S. Beck, PhD	Susan Shelton			Bill Buehrer, Chair Thurmont Senior s Commission
Rae Ann Butler	Carolyn True			
Harold A. Ehart, Jr., Chair				
		Judy Hallman		
Lloyd Hoover				
		Alan Imhoff, Alderman		
		Charles A. Jenkins, Comm.		
Ona M. John Kile				
Louise Lynch				
Burt Shawver				
Virginia Skelley				
		Anna Mary Snyder		
Robert Wannemacher				

- I. **Call to Order** – Hal Ehart, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – Hal Ehart welcomed all attendees and introductions/affiliations were made.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - the minutes of the March 10, 2008 meeting were approved on a motion by Dr. Pete Allen and seconded by Dr. Robert Wannemacher. All were in favor.
- IV. **Commissioner's Report** – no report at this time.
- V. **Upcoming Department Activities** – Mindy Lohman-Hinz distributed a brochure on “Navigating the Nursing Home Journey” and requested assistance with distribution of brochures. There will be a presentation on May 6, 2008 at Heartfields for caregivers.
- VI. **Presentation about the Thurmont Seniors Commission** – Bill Buehrer, Chair of the Thurmont Seniors Commission, distributed a copy of the Charter and By-laws for review by the CoA members. He high-lighted the following items of interest:

- Transportation for seniors is difficult in getting to the Thurmont Senior Center, doctor's appointments, events, etc. There is difficulty in identifying those in need as seniors are a proud group of people and are not willing to divulge their needs. The Thurmont Commission didn't care for the reciprocity part of the Partners-in-Care program. Burt Shawver expressed concern in regards to the concept of the Partners-in-Care program in that it is not a mutual exchange of services provided that would require pay back and this needs to be clarified. Bill Buehrer will discuss this with his commission.
- The Thurmont Seniors Commission held their first meeting in January.
- Lease Agreement is with regard to the use arrangement at the Thurmont Senior Center that will address liability insurance, who is responsible for what, how to handle on-site injuries, etc.
- Thurmont Senior Center Board is resistant to asking the Town of Thurmont for help. Not sure why this is so but they need to advocate for their needs so budgets can be prepared accordingly.
- The Thurmont Senior Center is not conducive to their operations, i.e. office privacy, space, etc. The City of Thurmont is looking at another building or the garage in the rear of the existing building for expansion.
- Rae Ann Butler questioned representation for the Thurmont Senior Centers interest? Carolyn True stated this has not yet been established. It was agreed that all three entities need to meet to discuss and agree upon the needs of this center.
- Dr. Pete Allen questioned if the Thurmont Seniors Commission is able to do fund raising or any type of promotions? Bill Buehrer noted that the Thurmont Seniors Board Inc. is a 5013(C).
- Medical Alert Mechanism – they are pursuing a company to provide services at a reduced rate.
- Funding – need to identify all needs and find funding.
- Unified Voice – form a coalition with leaders of this community in working with groups to achieve our goals.
- Commission on Aging Meeting Calendar – Carolyn True provided the calendar of upcoming meeting dates and locations and welcomed Bill Buehrer to future meetings.

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- VII. **Update on State COA Activities** – Louise Lynch indicated the State Leadership awards ceremony will be held on May 13, 2008 from 1:30 to 3:30 pm in Annapolis, MD. Some of the categories for the awards are Visual and Performing Arts, Healthy Life Styles and Fitness for 60+, Outstanding Contributions in the Field of Aging. Nominations are due by April 18, 2008.

Monday, April 28, 2008 is the last of five State hearings on the Area Plan from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. April 30, 2008 is the Glenwood Regional Commission meeting from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Louise reiterated that this is the forum to address issues that need to be heard. Louise and Virginia Skelly will be attending and if anyone is available to attend any of these meetings, please contact Louise Lynch.

- VIII. **COA Luncheon Update** – Burt Shawver confirmed that everything is a go for Monday, May 12, 2008 at 12:00 noon at Homewood at Crumland Farms. Soup and salad will be served. Stuart Rosenthal, Chair of the State COA, is the speaker and Scott Grant; one of the Meals on Wheels volunteers will also be speaking.

- IX. **Director's Report** – Carolyn True distributed a draft of the Frederick County Commission on Aging Strategic Plan 2008 – 2012. Alan Imhoff, Hal Ehart, Louise Lynch, Suzan Adams, Rae Ann Butler and Carolyn met to make revisions and to prioritize. Carolyn requested members to review said plan in preparation of discussion at the June 2008 meeting.

The County Comprehensive Plan meeting is on Monday, June 9, 2008. This is the first step to talk to various boards and commissions by members of the planning staff who will facilitate the meeting.

Carolyn requested members to come prepared with a list of questions, in advance, for review. We need to go on record, as a commission, as to where we are and where we need to go in addressing senior's needs in our community. Dr. Robert Wannemacher moved that the June 9, 2008 meeting be held at the Frederick Senior Center and the July 14, 2008 meeting be moved to the Brunswick Senior Center. Louise Lynch seconded this motion. All were in favor.

HB40 Flexible Leave for Caregivers – bill passed but could still be vetoed as it conflicts with the FMLA policy and job protection. Those groups that will soon become seniors are not resonating the need for senior programs and they do not want to be associated with older people. Silence is an affirmation that everything is o.k. Baby-boomers do not want to admit they are getting old.

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The Alzheimer's "Safe Return" bracelet program could not get media involvement as it conflicts with the Amber Alert program.

Delinquent Property Tax Sales – The Tax Assessment office will refer all persons over 70 years old to the Department of Aging to assist in determining what can be done to avoid a tax sale and loss of senior homes. Some younger individuals will be referred to other resources. They must have lived in the home for a minimum of 25 years or more to qualify for assistance in applying for tax relief programs, involving family members in the process, involving other health care resources to determine if it is safe for the senior to remain in their home, etc.

April 18, 2008 – Breakfast meeting at the Emmitsburg Senior Center. Grant coalition looking for a sponsor for transportation needs from the northern part of the county. Looking at the purchase of a vehicle and hiring a case manager. Louise Lynch stated this may be an opportunity to resurrect an old program in using non-profits for transportation. Carolyn indicated Sherry Burford attempted a meeting to address this topic but did not get any responses. Liability was a hindrance and there are still territorial issues that need to be put to rest.

April 30, 2008 – The Towson State University nursing students will be hosting a health fare from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Frederick Senior Center.

May 1, 2008, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm – Volunteer attorneys with the Local Bar Association will be at the Frederick, Emmitsburg, and Urbana Senior Centers to assist seniors with advanced directives.

Bernice Sewell has resigned from the CoA due to health reasons and Peggie Bracken has resigned as well. Peggie's husband died and she will be moving out of the area.

X. **Adjournment** – the meeting adjourned at 2:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary S. Bevard-Cline,  
Recording Secretary

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### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**May 12, 2008** – Annual CoA Luncheon at 12:00 noon at Homewood at Crumland Farms, 7407 Willow Road, Frederick, MD 21702.

**June 9, 2008** – CoA Meeting at 1:00 pm at the Frederick Senior Center, 1440 Taney Avenue, Frederick, MD 21702.

**July 14, 2008** – CoA Meeting at 12:30 pm at the Brunswick Senior Center, 12 East A Street, Brunswick, MD 21716. If you plan on dining at this center at 12:00 noon, please call the Brunswick Senior Center Coordinator, Cathy Barnes, at 301-834-8115. You must call **48 hours in advance** (**by Wednesday, July 9, 2008**) for your meal reservation.